Lovereading4kids Reader reviews of
The Glass Bird Girl by Esme Kerr

Below are the complete reviews, written by Lovereading4kids members.

Katie Johnson, age 10

*I really loved this story because of all the cliffhangers; I couldn't put the book down or stop turning pages!*  
It is very exciting and I loved the main character, Edith, and her daring adventures.  
A must read for Enid Blyton lovers.  
10 out of 10!

Eva Majury, age 10

‘The Glass Bird Girl’ is the first instalment of the exciting new Knight’s Haddon series by Esme Kerr. Knight’s Haddon is an unusually strict girls’ boarding school with no modern technology – no mobile phones, no computers, no tablets. Young orphan, Edie (Edith) Wilson is sent to Knight’s Haddon on a secret mission – to discover what’s happening to the belongings of Russian Princess Anastasia, a boarder at the school.

Anastasia sees Edith as her fearless friend, one who will do anything to get to the bottom of the mystery surrounding her disappearing belongings. There are lots of different suspects, both pupils and staff. *I liked the fast paced plot, the element of mystery and the school setting which reminded me of Enid Blyton's books. It was like being in another time – imagine no tv, no apps, no ‘Minecraft’!*  
This is a strong start to the series and I look forward to reading more stories set in Knight’s Haddon.
Tilly Dickinson, age 9

*I really liked this book, it was a cross between an adventure and a detective book that kept me in suspense and wanting to read more.*

Cousin Charles is asked by a wealthy Russian prince to find out why his daughter, Anastasia, is being 'horribly teased' at boarding school. Charles sends orphaned Edie to be the detective. Edie soon discovers that Anastasia's things are going missing only to find that they reappear shortly after a fuss has been made. Anastasia thinks she is losing her mind.

Edie uncovers more than she expects, a kidnapping plot and hidden information about her own family.

I would recommend this book to girls and boys who enjoy a mystery and drama, definitely a 9 out of 10.

Emma Stephenson, age 10

‘The Glass Bird Girl’ is an exciting mystery with remarkable characters. Edie finds herself at boarding school on a secret mission to find out who is persecuting Anastasia. Is it the other girls or the mistresses? Edie also comes across a mystery of her own. There is a connection between the headmistress, Miss Fotheringay and Edie’s mother who died when Edie was a baby. The author has written this book very cleverly so you do not know whether the characters are good, bad or being manipulated. I have enjoyed working this out. This wonderful book includes midnight feasts, private towers and rich princes. ‘The Glass Bird Girl’ is a great book for young mystery solvers.

Alice East, age 9

This is a book about a girl who is sent away to a boarding school to look after a Russian Princess. Her mission is to spy on the pupils and teachers to see if they are being mean to the princess.

In the book there is a giant range of vocabulary with many challenging words. This makes it really interesting to read because it helps you to expand your vocabulary with lots of interesting new words.

It is a really mysterious and adventurous book so it keeps you enthralled throughout. You want to carry on reading to see what happens next.

I enjoyed reading this book very much and have learnt lots of new words.
Aditi Mehendale, age 11

I found this book quite enjoyable, and think that it's a must-read for any fans of Enid Blyton's boarding school series, i.e. Malory Towers and St. Clares.

Set in a girls’ boarding school, this book has two main characters. The first is Edie, an orphan who grew up in London with her grandmother, who is slowly growing blind. However, when the book starts she is at Folly Farm, which is owned by her aunt and three cousins, all of whom feel that Edie doesn’t belong. And Edie feels the same way.

The second is a Russian princess called Anastasia, who lives in England. She attends a girls’ boarding school called ‘Knight’s Haddon’. Her first mention in the book is when her father is talking to his friend, Charles, who just so happens to be Edie’s aunt’s cousin.

The circumstances in which the two girls meet are strange. Anastasia is worried that she might be being teased and, being the sort of person she is, asks Charles to ‘import’ a child into the school as a spy to keep watch on her. Edie is that child.

So Edie’s been sent to another place where she feels that she doesn’t belong so that she could find out who stole another girl’s pens. Soon, she strikes up a close friendship with Anastasia, though she still keeps working on her mission. It doesn't feel like an urgent case, but to stay at Knight’s Haddon, which she turns out to like, she has to have something to report. It doesn't take long before she finds out that these small crimes could be involved in something a lot more sinister.

I found it a great read, with a twisted plot that hints at madness, secrets, and a world where anyone could be under suspicion.

Alice Bullard, age 10

A thrilling book set in a big, strict boarding school. Orphan Edie is sent as a secret spy to see if a Russian Princess is being bullied.

This spectacular book is set mostly in a big, strict boarding school called Knights Haddon. The main character (Edie) is an orphan who is adopted. She is sent to Knights Haddon as a secret spy to see if a Russian Princess called Anastasia is being bullied and stolen from. She needs to find out who is doing this.
I found “The Glass Bird Girl” a thrilling book. My favourite character was Anastasia because she has a cool personality. I would strongly recommend this book to 9 to 11 year old girls who like suspense stories. The only bad thing is that the front cover is very misleading.

**Traviss Chaytors, age 10**

**A brilliant book full of laughs and drama.**

“The Glass Bird Girl’ was a brilliant book about a young girl called Edie who is an orphan living with her cousins, she used to live with Baka her care taker who lived next to a polish butcher until she went blind and went to a nursing home and then Edie had to stay with her cousins. One day her cousin who doesn’t live with them tells Edie she has to go to an only girl’s boarding school to spy on the prince’s daughter and my favourite part is when Anastasia, the prince’s daughter, thinks she’s lost her class bird and everybody laughs at her even the teacher.

I would recommend this book to drama lovers as it is full of it. This is clearly a 5 out of 5 for me as it’s amazing and I loved it.

**Adiella Norridge, age 10**

There are strange goings on in the castle-like boarding school, Knight’s Haddon. ‘The Glass Bird Girl’ is a mysterious book full to the brim with adventure.

Orphan Edie King, is sent to Knight’s Haddon under the orders of a Russian prince to find out what is happening to his daughter. Can she figure out the mystery surrounding the princess?

I would give this book 4/5. I was absorbed in the plot and the urge to find out what was going to happen next kept me reading on and on. The characters were very realistic and vivid in my imagination. The school was interesting because it is very different from other fictional boarding schools. It kept me guessing all the way through.

I would highly recommend it.
**Sam Harper, age 10**

*Edie King does not have a happy life. She is an orphan, living with and taking care of her old Russian grandmother, Babka. But when Babka loses her sight and is taken into a nursing home, Edie must go to live with her horrible cousins on their farm. They are really evil and nasty to her and Edie’s life seems to be going from bad to worse until her luck suddenly changes. She is put to work as a spy by her older cousin Charles. He sends her undercover, as a pupil, to Knight’s Haddon, a private boarding school, where she must investigate Anastasia, a Russian princess.*

Anastasia’s father wants her watched as he thinks that she is being bullied but Edie soon discovers that it is far more complicated than that. Someone is trying to make Anastasia believe that she is mad and Edie doesn’t know who she can trust. She needs to try to fit in at the school with all of it’s strange rules and regulations whilst also trying to solve the mystery. She has many suspects but she can’t work out who is behind all of the strange disappearances or why they are doing it. Could the Headmistress, Miss Fotheringay, be responsible and what other secrets is she hiding from Edie?

**The mystery keeps you guessing until the very end when it reaches it’s exciting climax. It had me on the edge of my seat and holding my breath. A brilliantly exciting mystery!**

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**Sidney Greenslade, age 10**

*‘The Glass Bird Girl’ is a thrilling mystery adventure where heroine Edie faces life threatening danger in a tale that kept me gripped from the first to the last page.*

‘The Glass Bird Girl’ tells the gripping story of orphan Edie who is sent to Knight’s Haddon School to investigate the disappearance of Princess Anastasia’s belongings.

Investigating is not easy in the strictest school in England where the teachers are always on the lookout for pupils disobeying the rules.

Edie and Anastasia don’t know who to trust as the mystery deepens leading to an exciting and dangerous adventure.

*‘The Glass Bird Girl’ was a thrilling story that made me want to keep turning the pages to find out what happened next. The characters felt very real to me and the action and adventures scenes were so exciting that I felt that I was right there with Edie and Anastasia.*
Rachel Ilsley, age 10

Edie King is an orphan, she lived with her grandmother, Babka for a long time until Babka is put in a home. Edie is sent to live with her Aunt and cousins. One day her cousin Charles appears to take Edie to Knight’s Haddon, a strict boarding school for girls but once she gets there things turn from bad to worse. Edie is only there because the Prince of Russia is worried about his daughter, Anastasia. Edie’s job is to make sure Anastasia is alright but Edie discovers that the headmistress might know something about her mother’s childhood.

I like this book because there are lots of mysteries and a big adventure happening at the same time. I hope there is another book after this one because I would love to find what happens next at the school.

Lucy Turner, aged 11

Young orphan Edie King, is sent to Knight’s Haddon boarding school on the outskirts of Oxford. She soon makes a lot of friends, but finds that she is constantly getting into trouble. As she is going through her teacher’s study, she finds a folder that shocks her completely. All of a sudden Edie finds herself caught up in a kidnap plot and it is up to her to stop it; but what will she do?

Overall this is a great book! I never put it down as it was always so tense. My favourite character has to be Edie because she is brave and kind. I would definitely give this book 10 out of 10.

Madi Campbell, age 14

This is an extremely intriguing read, you will try and make up answers to the questions in your head, however you will probably be wrong due to a twist in the storyline.

‘Glass Bird Girl’ is quite an easy read, but this doesn’t mean to say that it isn’t amazingly exciting. I couldn’t put this book down once I had got into it. As it is not one of those horror or sad and depressing books. I read it in bed on a night and thoroughly enjoyed it. This book is really intriguing and it makes you want to turn the next page just to see if the answer you are looking for is there, in black and white. The friendship that forms between the two girls is one of the
main themes throughout the story, this makes you even more curious to see what happens at the end, after all the fall outs and making up.

This is an easy, but amazing read which I would recommend to a variety of ages.

Amie Coffman, age 10

I loved this exciting and original book and could not put it down. If you like mysteries with a twist this is the book for you. One of my favourite books. I can't wait for more books by this author.

This story is about a girl called Edie who is sent to boarding school to keep an eye on Anastasia, an unhappy princess. Anastasia has a habit of losing things. Anastasia's godfather is Edie's cousin who has sent Edie to work out why Anastasia keeps losing her things! The clues start unraveling as you read further and I could not wait to finish the book and solve the mystery. The book finishes with a twist and it certainly does not end in the way I imagined it would!

Grace Sansom, age 10

I loved this book - it was full of tension and excitement and I couldn't wait to read it every evening.

I loved this story as it was full of tension and excitement. It follows Edie's adventures when she is sent to Knight's Haddon School and as well as trying to solve a mystery, she also has fun and makes some good new friends.

It is a bit like The Twins at St Clare's and Mallory Towers books, but with a bit more danger and mystery.

Daisy Theobald, age 11

This book is about a girl called Edie who has been sent to a boarding school by Prince Stolonov to look after his daughter who is supposedly going mad. Edie will be forced to do things that people never dreamt of. The headmistress takes a shine to Edie so will Edie finally get the answers she has always wanted?... I really enjoyed this book and I could read it over and over again and still wonder what was going to happen next. I hope she brings out another book soon. I would definitely give this book ten out of ten.
At points I found myself laughing and at other points read it with a tissue.

Enjoy...